

Testimony of

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Before the

Education Committee

Re:

**HB 5286: AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW PRESERVICE PERFORMANCE
ASSESSMENT FOR TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS.**

March 4, 2022

Good morning, Senator McCrory, Representative Sanchez, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 5286 and the elimination of the statewide implementation of the preservice performance assessment, edTPA.

I am currently a DSAP candidate completing edTPA. To begin, the cost of \$300 just puts up another paywall (Among many in the CT certification process) that prevents strong teachers from being able to pursue the profession. This is felt especially strong by adults returning to school for their certification who are student teaching and already are working for free. The actual edTPA portfolio is also problematic. I think that it can be simplified to a more manageable level. We, meaning DSAP candidates and student teachers, are already doing a lot of work creating materials and lesson plans from scratch, meeting with our advisors and cooperating teachers, attending professional development, etc. Spending all the extra time explaining your rationale, deciding which classes to film, and researching are simply busy work. We are already designing these units. It would be far simpler to provide student teachers with a template for a unit with some of the key components of edTPA, and then 3-5 pages of commentary. The way edTPA is currently does not show how we connect with students or our knowledge of the subject, but rather how good we are at creating and argument to show our lessons fit the mold.

Thank you for addressing these critical issues impacting our students, our educators, and our school communities.